

Howland House
Walpole (Westminster Street, first
house east of house facing North
end of green)
Cheshire County
New Hampshire

HABS No. NH-59

HABS
N.H.
3-WALP
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pa.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HOWLAND HOUSE

Location: Walpole (Westminster Street, first house east of house facing North end of green), Cheshire County, N. H.

Present Owner: Guy H. Bemis, Walpole, N. H.

Present Occupant: The owner.

Present Use: Domestic.

Brief Statement of Significance: Example of Classic Revival with many Asher Benjamin details.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: Aaron(?) Howland, original owner; Otis Bardwell; Frank Spaulding.
2. Date of Erection: 1840's.
3. Builder: Aaron(?) Howland, according to undocumented Local legend.
4. Notes on alterations and additions: Stair way made narrow. Wall added in hall to make toilet room. Victorian portico added. Columns from original front porch now on side porch.

B. Important old views: Old photo of house in hands of Mrs. Reginald Cahlane in Marlborough.

C. Sources of information:

1. Owner of house, G. H. Bemis, Walpole, N. H.
2. Reference collection in the library of the Walpole Historical Society.

D. Likely Sources not yet Investigated: Walpole history (old) and one now being written by Mrs. Frizzell.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character: Example of Classic Revival with many Asher Benjamin details.
2. Condition of Fabric: Excellent.

B. Detailed Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: 2-1/2 stories, 32' wide.
2. Foundations: Granite on field stone.
3. Wall construction: Brick at least three to four courses thick. American bond, 9 stretchers to one header. Walls 15" thick (rough measurement). Pegged and mortised ridge pole.
4. Openings
 - a. Doorways and doors: Doors framed with crisp moldings and bulls eye corner blocks. Front door square headed with side and transom lights, lead muntins, probably from Asher Benjamin, in perfect condition. Benjamin type Palladian window in pediment.
 - b. Windows and shutters: 6/6 double hung. Inside folding shutters.
5. Roof
 - a. Shape - covering: Gable. Slate.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Simple drip mold.
6. Chimneys: 4 chimney columns on outside walls.

C. Technical Description of Interior

1. Floor Plan: Three bay. Door and hall at left. Front and rear parlors at right. Dining room behind hall. Four rooms second floor.
2. Stairways: One, not original.

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3. Floor: Wood. Random width.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Original plaster. Wall paper.
5. Doorways and doors: Interior doors trimmed with crisp moldings and bulls eye corner blocks.
6. Trim: Typical of period.
7. Hardware: Some original.
8. Lighting: Electrical.
9. Heating: Central. Fireplaces have holes at side into which slip perforated tubes which can be pulled out and circulate more hot air than fireplace gives. Brass knobs on tubes. Heating tubes probably original.

D. Site

1. General Setting and orientation: Faces south - deep lot.
2. Outbuildings: Carriage house probably later.
3. Walks: Cement.
4. Landscaping: Shade trees and shrubs.

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